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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
WHITE HOUSE SUPPORT STAFF

*CIA/OCI/WH/2WH 740426*

Date: April 26, 1974

Item No.: WH #2

DIRECTOR: WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

SUBJECT: THE MILITARY SITUATION IN SOUTH VIETNAM

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The Communists have set up a 130-mm artillery position on a hilltop in government controlled territory in Thua Thien Province about 15 miles southeast of the Hue - Phu Bai airfield but as yet neither the airfield nor the nearby Headquarters of the ARVN 54th Regiment have been shelled. The South Vietnamese are now attempting to recapture the hill.

Communist pressure is continuing against government positions in Military Region 3. There are indications that fighting will sharply increase in western Hau Nghia Province this weekend. The South Vietnamese tentatively plan to launch an operation on

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April 27, or 28 in that area and in the adjacent Parrot's Beak region of Cambodia. The sweep is to last only a few days and its objective is to break the siege of the Duc Hue Ranger base by destroying artillery emplacements, communication installations, and supplies of the North Vietnamese 5th Division.

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